



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services

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EL-SABAAWI NAMED DIRECTOR OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

Falls Church, Va.—Commissioner Richard E. Kellogg announced today that he has appointed Mohamed El-Sabaawi, MD, director of the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute. Kellogg made the announcement to a meeting of employees of the Institute. Dr. El-Sabaawi has been Acting Director of the facility since December. In addition, Kellogg said that the Commonwealth and the U.S. Department of Justice have agreed to extend the deadline for full implementation of the plan of correction for NVMHI until January 1, 2001.

“This is good news for NVMHI and the Commonwealth,” said Kellogg. “We now have the leadership in place to fully implement our plan, and to move closer to dismissal of the case next year.” Dr. El-Sabaawi thanked his staff for their support and indicated that with progressive efforts of the staff and quality improvement initiatives already underway, the hospital is well on its way to full compliance with DOJ requirements.

El-Sabaawi is a graduate of the School of Medicine, and holds a Master’s Degree in Public Health from Alexandria University in Egypt. He completed his residency training in Psychiatry at Brown University in Rhode Island. He is certified in Psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and has added specialty board certifications in Addiction and Geriatric Psychiatry.

He served as Medical Director of NVMHI before agreeing to take on the job of Acting Director. In 1998 and 1999, he was Medical Director of acute inpatient units in the Sheppard Pratt Health System in Baltimore, MD. From 1994-1998, he directed the care of chronically and acutely mentally ill clients at the Arlington Mental Health Center and Arlington Hospital where he served as Chief Psychiatrist.

Dr. El-Sabaawi has authored numerous publications and has made extensive clinical and research presentations on various diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of mental illness and other issues in behavioral healthcare.

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